



# News Release

## **WISCONSIN ARMY AND AIR NATIONAL GUARD**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **Army National Guard engineer company is latest called to active duty**

The Wisconsin Army National Guard's 229th Engineer Company will be ordered to active duty Friday [Feb. 7] for an initial period of up to one year.

The unit, with approximately 170 soldiers, is based in Prairie du Chien and Platteville. The 229th's normal mission is construction and repair of roads and airfields.

The soldiers will mobilize at their armories in Prairie du Chien and Platteville on Friday, Feb. 7, and remain there for several days before moving to their mobilization station at Fort McCoy, Wis. Wisconsin Guard officials expect the unit will eventually deploy overseas.

The activation is part of the partial mobilization of the Guard and Reserve ordered by President Bush in the wake of the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist attacks. More than 112,000 Guard and Reserve personnel nationwide are presently serving on active duty under the partial mobilization, supporting Operations ENDURING FREEDOM (overseas U.S. military operations to combat terrorism) and NOBLE EAGLE (homeland defense and security operations in the continental United States).

This will be the 19th Wisconsin National Guard mobilization since the end of the Gulf War in 1991, when more than 1,400 Wisconsin Army and Air National Guard personnel from nine units were mobilized.

Mobilization of these soldiers will bring the total number of Wisconsin National Guard soldiers and airmen currently on active duty to about 1,125. In addition to the 229th Engineer Company, there are currently six other Army National Guard units, one Army Guard air base security task force, and three Air Guard units on active duty. More than 1,820 Wisconsin National Guard soldiers and airmen will have served on active duty during the past 16 months.

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